



M E D I A R E L E A S E

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 16, 2008

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DCS Summary Regarding Youth Implicated in Knox County Attack

The teenager who was implicated today in a brutal Knoxville attack was on the run from the Tennessee Department of Children's Services at the time of the assault.

In light of these recent events, here are some details about his involvement with DCS:

- In March 2007 he was placed at Mountain View Youth Development Center on a theft charge. He successfully completed his program at Mountain View in November. From there he was transferred to a DCS group home.
- On Nov. 29, 2007, he ran from the Johnson City Group Home. Staff members joined in the search for him. They alerted local law enforcement, the Knoxville police and the child's parents, per department protocol. His picture was supplied to Knoxville police as well. DCS filed a runaway petition with the Knox County Juvenile Court. The youth's name was entered in the National Crime Information Center database as an absconder from state custody.
- Officials from the DCS Absconder Recovery Program were also involved in the search for the youth. DCS case managers made regular contacts with family members and noted that he was known to stay with friends in East Knoxville. Had he been located, the plan was to return him to Mountain View.
- He had no previous history of violence or aggression.
- The youth is now in custody at the Knox County Juvenile Court detention center.